

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO†

### EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Vol. XVII, No. 6, June, 1919

#### EXCERPTS FROM EDITORIAL NOTES

*Correction of Abuses Under the Workmen's Compensation Act.*—That the physicians of the State have been exploited by many of the companies operating under the Workmen's Compensation Act, there can be no doubt. We have plenty of evidence on file in our office. The demanding of rebates upon what is known as the Fee-Schedule is the commonest method employed. This schedule has never been adopted by the Society. Therefore, there is no machinery for keeping the carriers and the physicians to their contracts—because there is no contract. . . .

*For Doctors in Smaller Towns.*—At the Santa Barbara meeting, a live topic of conversation grew out of the editorials of the last few months advocating the development of the rural and small-town hospital. The opinion was freely expressed that in these lay the future hold of the doctor on his own advancement, and in fulfillment of his public obligations to society. We must face the fact, whether we recognize it or not, that the doctor has a public obligation, and that if he does not meet it, his place will inevitably be filled by someone who does meet it. In smaller towns and in rural communities, the doctor has a particularly hard job in keeping himself in condition, to provide for his patients the very best that modern medical science can offer. He needs here, as much as in the larger cities, a knowledge of modern business methods which will establish him on a sound economic basis. He needs carefully to avoid medical and social ruts. They are easily gotten into, and from them extraction is most difficult. . . .

*The Pseudo-Medical Parasite.*—He styles himself doctor, and his habitat is San Francisco or Los Angeles, or some smaller town. He is a type of a genus, or of a species, or even of a family which infests all cities and many towns. He preaches to the gullible, and drops, into their open mouths, succulent and juicy bits of anatomy, physiology and pathology through the medium of the newspaper, and by virtue of his own private printing press. . . .

How ring down the curtain on the medical quack? How expose him and keep the unlearned and mentally helpless from his grasp? Some say it cannot be done. That, while this race is credulous, sensation-mongering and ripe to be plucked, these things will continue. Perhaps so. And still, why not recognize that the modern physician is no longer a scientific recluse, charged with preserving his knowledge and skill for his own esoteric circle? Why not start a widespread drive for personal propaganda for public health? Teach the people the truth. They, above all, are entitled to it. The doctor, above all, is fit to teach it. The truth shall make them free—free from the quack, the cult, and the ism—free to be healthy, and free from fear.

(Continued in Front Advertising Section, on Page 16)

† This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association activities some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

Historical reminiscences, papers and other archives will be welcomed by the C.M.A. Committee on History, to whom such should be sent. Address same to the Committee's Secretary, Dr. George H. Kress, Room 2004, 450 Sutter, San Francisco, 8.

## BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By F. N. SCATENA, M. D.  
Secretary-Treasurer

### Board Proceedings

A written examination will be held at Native Sons Hall, San Francisco, June 27 to 29, 1944. It is believed a large group will present themselves for examination at that time.

Oral examinations are held at frequent intervals. These examinations are for doctors applying for reciprocity from some other state of the United States, whose certificate in said state was issued more than ten years ago. Many candidates present themselves at each of these examinations.

### News

"Dr. Anthony B. Diepenbrock, San Francisco physician, yesterday was appointed to the State Board of Medical Examiners by Governor Warren." (San Francisco *News*, April 28, 1944.) Dr. Diepenbrock succeeds Alvin E. Cerf, M.D., whose term expired. . .

"Appointment of Dr. Joe Zeiler, noted Los Angeles physician and surgeon, to the State Board of Medical Examiners was announced here yesterday by Governor Earl Warren. Dr. Zeiler will serve for a four-year term, replacing Dr. Hugo B. Kersten of Los Angeles. . . ." (Los Angeles *Examiner*, April 28, 1944.)

"A gift from Bernard M. Baruch of \$1,100,000 was available today for the development of physical medicine, to aid American war casualties, under an administrative board headed by Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur. The sum was provided by Baruch in memory of his father, Dr. Simon Baruch, a distinguished surgeon of the Confederate Army and a leader in the field of physical medicine. . . . The Baruch Committee on Physical Medicine, headed by Dr. Wilbur, Stanford University chancellor, explained that Baruch's gift also was motivated by his 'desire to do something for the sick, especially the ill and wounded veterans.'" (San Francisco *Call-Bulletin*, April 27, 1944.)

"Dr. Huldah E. Thelander, widely known San Francisco children's specialist and Children's Hospital staff member, prepared today to don uniform as a Navy lieutenant commander, medical corps women's reserve, the first San Francisco woman doctor to enter the service with that rank. . . ." (San Francisco *Call-Bulletin*, April 25, 1944.)

"Attorney General Robert W. Kenny ruled today, in an opinion for State Public Health Director Wilton L. Halverson, that chiropractors and other drugless practitioners cannot legally issue pre-marital certificates. He said only persons licensed by the board of medical examiners and the board of osteopathic examiners could do so, and a county clerk would be guilty of a misdemeanor if he accepted a certificate made out by an unqualified practitioner." (San Bernardino *Sun*, March 26, 1944.)

(Continued in Back Advertising Section, on Page 42)

† The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6. News items are submitted by the Secretary of the Board.

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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Continued from Page 38)

(Continued from April issue), by Grant Selfridge, M. D., San Francisco, Calif.—FURTHER OBSERVATIONS. Among the 26 cases of vaso-motor rhinitis, 14 were found with signs of slight endocrine gland insufficiencies. No study was made of the remaining cases to determine the possibility of gland insufficiency. Several have had the focal infections removed, with the idea that the irritation (vagatonia) might be caused by the infection. Some of these have been relieved by the operative procedures, but here too, the period has not been long enough to be certain of the result. . . .

## BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

(Continued from Text Page 356)

"More than one-fourth of Canada's 12,234 doctors were in the armed forces in March, this year, the War-time Information Board announces. There remains one doctor for every 1261 persons in Canada, with the likelihood of still further restriction in medical care." (Los Angeles Eastside Journal, April 19, 1944.)

"Amos F. Clapp, chiropractor, convicted of the illegal operation death of Mrs. Doris Jane Branch, 18, has been sentenced to a term of five years to life in San Quentin prison, by Superior Judge Leslie E. Still, in Long Beach. . . . Dr. Clapp's conviction culminated a two-week trial (Continued on Page 44)

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### BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

(Continued from Page 42)

and was the second such action against him. At the time he allegedly operated on Mrs. Branch, he was at liberty pending an appeal of a previous conviction." (Los Angeles *Herald & Express*, April 25, 1944.)

"Convicted by a jury recently on a charge of practicing medicine without a license, P. W. Beirnes, a chiropractor, was fined \$300 yesterday by Municipal Judge Leo Aggeler. Beirnes diagnosed an ailment and dispensed drugs for a patient who called at his office at 2024 West Sixth St., according to evidence presented at his trial by Deputy City Attorney Lewis TeeGarden." (Los Angeles *Examiner*, April 27, 1944.)

"Dr. Roland K. Harris, charged with the abortion

murder of a Los Angeles woman, has obtained his release from city jail by posting \$30,000 bond. Harris was taken into custody Friday after the death of Mrs. Julia Zubilaga." (Long Beach *Independent*, April 18, 1944.)

"Dr. Clyde A. Pierson, San Bernardino osteopathic physician, will go on trial in Superior Judge Charles L. Allison's court Tuesday at 10 A.M. on three counts of performing illegal operations on three young married women. . . . Two of the three counts are the same charges on which Dr. Pierson previously was taken into custody by agents of the state medical board. The indictment by the grand jury supersedes the complaint filed by agents of the state board and eliminated the necessity for holding a preliminary hearing in justice court on the charges." (San Bernardino *Sun*, April 3, 1944.)

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**BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

(Continued from Page 44)

"Charged with performing a criminal abortion operation on a 30-year-old local woman, Dr. William Cardew, 76, chiropractor and former physician and surgeon, was free on \$5000 bail last night following his arrest by Sheriff William J. Emig's deputies and a state medical board inspector. . . . Chief Deputy Sheriff Jack Gibbons and Inspector Joseph Williams of the state medical board made the arrest and obtained the complaint following a conference with Assistant District Attorney N. J. Menard. Officers charge that Dr. Cardew is an old offender on charges of violating state medical practice laws. His record shows that in April, 1940, he was fined \$100 for practicing medicine without a license, and was placed on two years probation. Later the same year he was hailed

into court for violating his probation by practicing medicine. . . ." (San Jose Mercury Herald, April 15, 1944.)

"Adolphus Hohensee, 48, erstwhile taxicab owner and 'health' lecturer, yesterday had his second brush with the law within a week and demonstrated that financially anyway he was well fixed to meet it. Fined \$200 by Municipal Judge Melyvyn I. Cronin after pleading guilty to peddling nostrums without a license, Hohensee peeled a \$1,000 bill from a roll of similar greenbacks. The roll had at least one more bill last week—the one Hohensee gave Municipal Judge Thomas I. Prendergast after being found guilty of violating the State's medical practice act by representing himself falsely as a medical doctor. In that instance, Hohensee paid a \$300 fine, in lieu of a 90-day jail sentence. . . ." (San Francisco Examiner, April 22, 1944.)

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